

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 00494 200236Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05  
COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
/078 W

-----072123 201416Z /46

R 200145Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1830  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 0494

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ASEAN, MY  
SUBJECT: EDITORIAL ON U.S. ROLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE BUSINESS TIMES CARRIED EDITORIAL ENTITLED  
"THE PROBLEM OF AMNISEA"(SIC) WHICH CRITICIZED U.S. FOR INATTENTION  
TO SOUTHEAST ASIA. AMNISEA IS AN ACRONYM THOUGHT UP BY  
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS GHAZALI SHAFIE STANDING FOR THE  
AMERICAN ATTITUDE OF NON-INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. AS  
EVIDENCE OF THIS, THE EDITORIAL MENTIONED THE LOW-LEVEL USG  
ATTENDANCE AT THE ASIA SOCIETY MEETING IN SEPTEMBER AS CONTRASTED  
WITH PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN'S PRESENCE THERE. EDITORIAL  
CONTINUED BY NOTING THAT DESPITE THE HIGH LEVELS OF U.S.  
TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN THE REGION, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE THAT  
THE U.S. WAS MAKING ANY REAL EFFORT TO PROMOTE CLOSER TIES.  
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PARTICULAR MENTION WAS MADE OF THE ASEAN MEETINGS IN MANILA WHICH  
THE EDITORIAL CATEGORIZED AS ENDING IN "AGREEMENTS TO DISAGREE,"  
WITH THE U.S. TURNING DOWN ASEAN'S REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE  
INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS AND FOR COMMODITY PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENTS.  
EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT DESPITE DISAPPOINTMENTS, ASEAN STILL  
LOOKS UPON U.S. AS FIRM FRIEND AND HAS CONFIDENCE THAT U.S.  
LEADERSHIP IS STRONG ENOUGH TO OVERCOME "PASSING PROBLEMS."

2. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THIS EDITORIAL WAS  
INSPIRED BY GOM, IT NO DOUBT DOES REFLECT DEEPLY HELD CONCERNS  
ON PART OF SOME SENIOR OFFICIALS AS TO U.S. INTENTIONS (AND  
INTEREST) IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, CONCERNS THEY STILL HAVE DESPITE  
OUR BEST RHETORIAL EFFORTS.  
MILLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KUALA00494  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780030-1110  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 1a23c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3742120  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EDITORIAL ON U.S. ROLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA  
**TAGS:** SOPN, MY, ASEAN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1a23c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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